

**INSURANCE.**  
**PLANTERS**  
**INSURANCE COMPANY,**  
OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.  
OFFICE: COR. MADISON AND SECOND  
streets.  
Fire, Marine and River Risks Taken  
on Risks on Private Dwellings especially  
desired.  
J. G. LONSDALE, President.  
J. H. LONSDALE, Vice President.  
J. A. GOODMAN, Secretary.  
J. G. LONSDALE, JR., Asst. Sec'y.

**DIRECTORS:**  
D. H. TOWNSEND, J. F. HARRIS,  
J. G. LONSDALE, J. A. PINSON,  
J. H. WICKS, J. J. HUBBARD,  
J. C. WILSON, J. J. HUBBARD,  
CHAS. J. PHILLIPS, G. H. JUDAH,  
J. F. MCNEIL, J. H. ROSENBAUM,  
J. H. SLEDGE.

**BUSINESS HOUSES.**  
**BANK—FIRST NATIONAL OF MEMPHIS.**  
J. G. Davis, Pres.; J. A. Pinson, V. Pres.;  
J. H. Wicks, Cashier.  
**CITY BANK, NEW BANK BUILDING.**  
J. G. Davis, Pres.; J. A. Pinson, V. Pres.;  
J. H. Wicks, Cashier.  
**CARROLLA LIFE INS. CO., 225 Main**  
St. J. Davis, Pres.; W. F. Boyle, Sec'y.  
**VANCE AND ANDERSON, ATTORNEYS**  
at Law, 225 Main street, Memphis.  
**DICKINSON, WILLIAMS & CO., COTTON**  
Factors, 210 1/2 Main street.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**  
**For the Legislature.**  
W. D. Lumpkin is a candidate for the Legisla-  
ture from Shelby county, subject to the  
action of the Democratic Convention. 1870  
F. H. Tipton, subject to the Democratic Con-  
vention.

**Wheeler & Wilson's**  
**NEW**  
**SILENT-WORKING**  
**Sewing Machine!**  
**IS SUPERIOR**  
**FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. Its yearly sales are larger than those of  
all other Sewing Machines combined.  
This fact alone is the surest test of its  
merit and superiority.

2. It is an instrument of great versatility  
in its operation. It will hem, fell, braid,  
cord, gather, tuck more beautifully than  
any other machine in use, without basting  
or any preparation of the work.

3. The **LOCK STITCH** which it  
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any other, presenting the same appearance  
on both sides of the fabric and will  
not unravel. It is also more economical,  
requiring less thread than any other  
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**Monthly Payments**  
—OF—  
**\$10**  
WILL PURCHASE ONE AT  
**A. SUMNER CO.,**  
NO. 256 SECOND STREET,  
(Opposite Court Square), Memphis.  
31-12-2000

**FAIR.**  
**TO THE MERCHANTS**  
—AND—  
**BUSINESS MEN**  
—OF—  
**MEMPHIS.**

OFFICE OF MEMPHIS AGRICULTURAL  
AND MECHANICAL SOCIETY.  
Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 6, 1870.  
MESSRS. R. C. HITE & CO. APPLIED TO  
me two weeks since for the privilege of  
publishing a newspaper entitled the coming  
Fair, to be distributed gratis on the Fair  
grounds, with full and faithful reports of the  
proceedings. I granted them the said privi-  
lege, so far as I am clothed with authority, be-  
lieving them to be fully entitled to the privi-  
lege from the enterprise, public spirit and  
liberality they have displayed in entering the  
Fair, publishing the reports of the Fair, and  
the benevolent ladies who pay them for  
their services. Very respectfully,  
LEON THOUSDALE, Sec'y.

It will be seen from the above that we  
ALSO have full authority to print a paper  
for gratuitous distribution on the coming  
Fair, in accordance with the above privi-  
lege, we engaged to print a handsome four-page  
paper, to be called the "Fair and its Pro-  
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reporter, who will furnish a daily report of all  
the proceedings, as well as the names of the  
contributors, and we have secured the services of a  
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**By E. WHITMORE.**  
**VOL. XI.**  
**MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE: MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 24, 1870.**

**PUBLIC LEDGER.**  
THIS PUBLIC LEDGER IS PUBLISHED  
every afternoon (except Sunday) by  
**E. WHITMORE.**  
At No. 13 Madison street.

The Public Ledger is served to the subscribers  
for the Public Ledger, by the following rates:  
PER WEEK, payable weekly to the carrier.  
By mail (in advance): One year, \$5; six  
months, \$3; three months, \$1.50; one month,  
50 cents.

Newsletters published at 25 cents per copy.  
**Weekly Public Ledger.**  
Published every Tuesday at \$2 per annum (in  
advance); clubs of five or more, \$10.

Communications upon subjects of general  
interest to the public are at all times accept-  
able. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.  
**RATES OF ADVERTISING IN DAILY.**

First insertion, 100 words, \$1.00 per square.  
For one week, 3.00 " "  
For two weeks, 4.00 " "  
For three weeks, 5.00 " "  
For one month, 7.50 " "

**RATES OF ADVERTISING IN WEEKLY.**  
First insertion, 100 words, \$1.00 per square.  
Subsequent insertions, 50 " "  
Eight lines of nonpareil, solid, constitute a  
square.

Display advertisements will be charged  
according to the space occupied, at above  
rates, and being twelve lines of solid type to  
the inch.

Notices in local column inserted for twenty  
cents per line for each insertion.  
Special notices inserted for ten cents, twenty  
cents per line for each insertion.

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**THE RAILROAD MURDERER.**  
Attempted Suicide of Gaige—  
Letters Written by Him Previous to  
the Attempt.  
Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.]  
MANSFIELD, October 19, 1870.  
William Gaige, the railroad murderer,  
who was sentenced on Monday last to  
imprisonment for life, was taken to the  
penitentiary to-day. He has made two  
attempts to take his life, the first not  
known till his letters below revealed it,  
and the latter last night, when with a  
piece of a broken bottle he tried to sever  
the femoral artery in his left thigh. He  
missed by an inch or two, but cut a hor-  
rid, ragged gash, from which there was  
considerable hemorrhage.

Before starting for the penitentiary,  
he sent the following letters to his coun-  
sel, Messrs. Matson & Diriam, which he  
doubtless intended should be found on  
his dead body, if his attempt at suicide  
succeeded. The package also contained  
a letter to Wm. Gaige, his father, in New  
York, from whom he had, up to the pre-  
sent time, carefully concealed his trou-  
bles. The letter to his father was an  
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was sealed and forwarded by Messrs.  
Matson & Diriam without examination,  
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ver dollar, doubtless a cherished pocket  
piece designed for some loved friend or  
relative, by whom he desired to be held  
in remembrance.

The first letter, dated the 11th, was  
written immediately after Mr. Matson  
had made a persistent attempt to induce  
him (Gaige) to confess, as to some lower  
grade of homicide, so as to lighten his  
punishment. The letters are written in  
a plain business hand, and indicate at  
least ordinary intelligence on the part of  
the writer. I furnish copies verbatim.

"MANSFIELD, October 11, 1870.  
"Mr. Matson—I will thank you to  
write to my father Wm. Gaige care of E.  
Gaige 681 Broadway giving him a state-  
ment of the cause of my arrest.  
"When last I saw you I stated freely  
and truthfully all the facts so far as I  
know relating to the R. R. disaster, that  
I had nothing to do with it and what I  
stated to you then I here on my death  
bed declare the truth God is my witness.  
"I have never done anything to dis-  
honor myself or family; therefore can  
not except your advice and make a plea  
of homicide, until I am guilty in my  
heart. I want my liberty or death I take  
the initiative that justice shall be secured  
from my stand point of reasoning.  
"Please accept my thanks for your  
kindness. Farewell. "W. W. GAIGE."

"October 15, 70—Saturday Night.  
"I put off the execution of my design  
till after trial, to give Sagdon a chance  
to tell the truth, which would certainly  
exonerate me, as he knows very well I  
did not take the tools out of the house,  
carry them to the place of disaster, or  
take out the rail, which are specific facts  
he swore to, and all of which are false.  
"Now, I will not live and be punished  
for another man's crimes. True, all the  
circumstances surrounding me point di-  
rectly to me as one of the conspirators,  
but I also know I could walk I would  
be free of the prison, at the time of the  
disaster, my great aim was to get to  
New York; he would not try to get to  
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intent to go to New York in this place was  
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favorable opportunity offered itself to  
speak to the landlord Sugden came in.  
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"In explanation of the above letter it  
may be added that Gaige professed to  
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Here follows the third and last letter:  
"Wm. I disappointed myself last night.  
I drank the little bottle up in the paper  
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missed by an inch or two, but cut a hor-  
rid, ragged gash, from which there was  
considerable hemorrhage.

Before starting for the penitentiary,  
he sent the following letters to his coun-  
sel, Messrs. Matson & Diriam, which he  
doubtless intended should be found on  
his dead body, if his attempt at suicide  
succeeded. The package also contained  
a letter to Wm. Gaige, his father, in New  
York, from whom he had, up to the pre-  
sent time, carefully concealed his trou-  
bles. The letter to his father was an  
open one, but from motives of delicacy  
was sealed and forwarded by Messrs.  
Matson & Diriam without examination,  
except that it was found to contain a sil-  
ver dollar, doubtless a cherished pocket  
piece designed for some loved friend or  
relative, by whom he desired to be held  
in remembrance.

The first letter, dated the 11th, was  
written immediately after Mr. Matson  
had made a persistent attempt to induce  
him (Gaige) to confess, as to some lower  
grade of homicide, so as to lighten his  
punishment. The letters are written in  
a plain business hand, and indicate at  
least ordinary intelligence on the part of  
the writer. I furnish copies verbatim.

"MANSFIELD, October 11, 1870.  
"Mr. Matson—I will thank you to  
write to my father Wm. Gaige care of E.  
Gaige 681 Broadway giving him a state-  
ment of the cause of my arrest.  
"When last I saw you I stated freely  
and truthfully all the facts so far as I  
know relating to the R. R. disaster, that  
I had nothing to do with it and what I  
stated to you then I here on my death  
bed declare the truth God is my witness.  
"I have never done anything to dis-  
honor myself or family; therefore can  
not except your advice and make a plea  
of homicide, until I am guilty in my  
heart. I want my liberty or death I take  
the initiative that justice shall be secured  
from my stand point of reasoning.  
"Please accept my thanks for your  
kindness. Farewell. "W. W. GAIGE."

"October 15, 70—Saturday Night.  
"I put off the execution of my design  
till after trial, to give Sagdon a chance  
to tell the truth, which would certainly  
exonerate me, as he knows very well I  
did not take the tools out of the house,  
carry them to the place of disaster, or  
take out the rail, which are specific facts  
he swore to, and all of which are false.  
"Now, I will not live and be punished  
for another man's crimes. True, all the  
circumstances surrounding me point di-  
rectly to me as one of the conspirators,  
but I also know I could walk I would  
be free of the prison, at the time of the  
disaster, my great aim was to get to  
New York; he would not try to get to  
him out that I could go alone. My  
intent to go to New York in this place was  
engaged a week's accommodation till I  
could write home for money, before a  
favorable opportunity offered itself to  
speak to the landlord Sugden came in.  
I supposed I had successfully delivered  
myself of my presence and knowing I  
could not billet him on a Hotel without  
baggage or reasonable excuse, I had to  
get rid of him again.

"As I wish to bury all malice with  
all men and a few moments to think  
between me and the great future, there-  
fore will not do me personal injury by  
stating all the facts that he made me ac-  
quainted with on the Monday night prior  
to my arrest. I desire to tell you the  
whole truth that instance he would  
have gone to the floor. My candle is  
most gone so must hurry to a conclusion.  
"I beg you to write my Brother.  
"Please accept my thanks for the ser-  
vices I have received at your hands.  
Farewell.  
"GAIGE."

"In explanation of the above letter it  
may be added that Gaige professed to  
be a Quaker, and had been in the utmost  
fear of Sugdon all along during the trial,  
and that every act of his was dictated  
and enforced by Sugdon, who had him  
under control. Sugdon has the  
position reversed exactly. The latter  
is certainly the more wicked man of the  
two, although the superiority in intel-  
ligence doubtless rests with the former.  
One circumstance that came out during  
Sugdon's examination on the trial would  
indicate that he was a certainly sworn  
man, and that he was a Quaker. He  
had stated in his confession to the de-  
tective that when he heard the train  
coming he (Sugdon) started to run, and  
that Gaige caught him. The counsel  
asked him if it was true, and if Gaige  
held him. He answered, "No, sir,  
(rather indignantly) Gaige couldn't  
hold me!"

Here follows the third and last letter:  
"Wm. I disappointed myself last night.  
I drank the little bottle up in the paper  
box full of landrum. Think of my as-  
tonishment to awake this morning with  
my usual appetite for breakfast. Now,  
my last resort is to the knife, and as I  
am reconciled to all things, shall not  
hesitate.  
"I beg nothing more to add, except  
my confirmation of what I have before  
said.  
"Again I thank you, and bid you fare-  
well.  
"I have an abiding faith that I will  
soon be with my little boy, although he  
is on earth, which will compensate me  
for all.  
"It is all to no purpose. The train  
failed, and the knife (broken bottle)  
missed its mark; and both Gaige and  
Sugdon will live to expiate their crimes  
in the penitentiary."

**FLORIDA WATER.**  
**The Celebrated**  
**Murray**  
**&**  
**Lanman's**  
**Florida Water**

The most lasting, agreeable  
and refreshing of all per-  
fumes, for use on the hand-  
kerchief, at the toilet, and in  
the bath. For sale by all  
Druggists and Perfumers.

**THE RAILROAD MURDERER.**  
Attempted Suicide of Gaige—  
Letters Written by Him Previous to  
the Attempt.  
Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.]  
MANSFIELD, October 19, 1870.  
William Gaige, the railroad murderer,  
who was sentenced on Monday last to  
imprisonment for life, was taken to the  
penitentiary to-day. He has made two  
attempts to take his life, the first not  
known till his letters below revealed it,  
and the latter last night, when with a  
piece of a broken bottle he tried to sever  
the femoral artery in his left thigh. He  
missed by an inch or two, but cut a hor-  
rid, ragged gash, from which there was  
considerable hemorrhage.

**LEADER.**  
Paper! Paper! Paper!  
OF ALL KINDS.  
**A. V. DU PONT & CO.,**  
Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers,  
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**AND FURNITURE!**  
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